

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, which amends Claims 1, 3-5, 11, 13, 14, 21 and 23, and cancels Claims 2, 12 and 22, Claims 1, 3-11, 13-21 and 23 remain pending in the present application. In the June 15, 2004 Office Action, Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1, 6, 8-11, 16 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,590,942 to Hessel et al. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11 and 16 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,012,491 to Iwasaki. Finally, Claims 2, 3, 7, 12, 13, 15, 17, 22 and 23 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but were otherwise indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections – Claims 4 and 14

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 5 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Specifically, the claims were rejected for not providing proper antecedent basis for the term “the source”. In response, Applicant has corrected the antecedent basis problems. In light of the amendments, Applicant requests that the § 112 rejections of Claims 4 and 14 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Claim Rejections and Allowable Claims

In this Amendment, Claims 2, 12, and 22 were amended into Claims 1, 11 and 21, respectively. The Office Action states that such amendments would result in claims that

are allowable over the prior art of record. Applicant request, therefore, that the § 102 rejections of independent Claims 1, 11 and 21 be withdrawn.

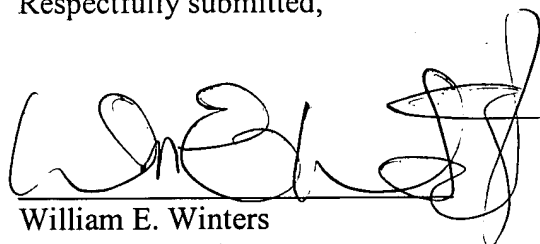
Each of the remaining claims (except for Claims 2, 12 and 22, which have been canceled) depend from Claim 1, 11 or 21. Accordingly, these dependent claims are also allowable as depending from allowable base claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 408-282-1857.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Winters', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

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